

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Conrad K. Meyer) Confirmation No: 4113
Serial No.: 10/047,629) Group Art Unit: 2154
Filed: January 15, 2002)) Examiner: Lin, Wen-Tai
For: System and Method for Locating a)) Atty. Docket No.: 10014352-1
Resource Locator Associated with a))
Resource of Interest)

REPLY BRIEF RESPONSIVE TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER

Mail Stop: Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner's Answer mailed March 9, 2007 has been carefully considered.

In response thereto, please consider the following remarks.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

REMARKS

The Examiner has provided in the Examiner's Answer various responses to arguments contained in Applicant's Appeal Brief. Although the Examiner's Answer has added some additional remarks in response to Applicant's arguments, the substance of the rejections and the Examiner's positions have not changed. Accordingly, Applicant stands behind the arguments set forth in the Appeal Brief. In addition, Applicant addresses selected responses in the following.

Claim 1 recites "soliciting input of search terms if said RL is invalid," among other features. In discussing the merits of Applicant's arguments with regard to claim 1, the Examiner states that "even though Belfiore's browser does not explicitly display a message 'soliciting' a user to pursue the auto-search mode (ii) following a failed attempt in (i), the message is implicitly given based on Belfiore's teachings, otherwise a user who enters a 'correct' but invalid URL would not attempt to explicitly type in search terms (as described at col.6 lines 8-14) and make use of Belfiore's auto-search mode (ii)." Page 8.

With respect to *Belfiore*, column 6, lines 8-14 of *Belfiore* states that "[u]sers may enter directive terms such as 'go' or 'find' followed by search terms within the Address box 84. Such users intend for the web browser to locate pages that are identified by terms within the text. As the directive terms do not contain content that is useful in conducting a search, these prefix terms are dropped from the text (step 90 in FIG. 7)."

With respect to the Examiner's comments, Applicant respectfully submits that *Belfiore* does not teach or suggest "soliciting input of search terms if said RL is invalid," as recited in claim 1. Further, Applicant fails to appreciate how a solicitation

for input of search terms can be implicitly given. A message that is never provided to a user does not seem to possibly be a solicitation.

The Examiner also states that "otherwise a user who enters a 'correct' but invalid URL would not attempt to explicitly type in search terms (as described at col.6 lines 8-14) and make use of *Belfiore*'s auto-search mode (ii)." Page 8. On this point, Applicant notes that *Belfiore* seems to be directed at locating search terms within the content of web pages and not within a URL address. For example, Fig. 10B shows a list of hyperlinks displaying web page titles and accompany text. Within this list (as shown in FIG. 10B), search terms are highlighted on the hyperlinks and in the accompany text. Therefore, if a user wanted to perform a search for terms within the text of a web page, the user could type a directive term (such as "go") and search terms into the web browser so that the browser provides the search terms to a search engine. Therefore, Applicant submits that *Belfiore* does not provide support for Examiner's assertion that soliciting input of search terms if an RL is invalid is implicit.

Also, since *Belfiore* provides a list of hyperlinks showing web page titles and not RLs, *Belfiore* fails to teach or suggest at least "presenting a list of all valid RLs in said predetermined index with addresses that correspond to said search terms," as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner also states that the "Applicant seems to ignore the fact that in *Belfiore* a user may take initiative to start a search engine at any point of time by explicitly entering search terms together with directive terms such as 'go' or 'find' (see col.6 lines 8-14)." Page 9. In response, Applicant acknowledges that *Belfiore*

describes that a user may initiate a search. Moreover, in *Belfiore*, a user seemingly has to initiate a search since the user is not solicited for search terms.

Further, the Examiner makes the point of explaining that Figs. 10A-11B shows highlighting of search terms on a URL name which is a clear indication that the name of the URL itself has been part of the matching targets. Page 10. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the examples provided in Figs. 10A-11B respectfully do not show a list of URLs. For example, Fig. 10B shows a list where the first entry has a hyperlink, "Tet and the WWWA" which is not a URL or RL address.

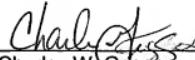
The above remarks may be applicable, where relevant, to the Examiner's responses in the Examiner's Answer with respect to similar arguments made for the remaining claims. For example, Applicant's remarks, as stated above, on these issues with regard to claim 1 would also apply to claim 8, among others, and are therefore not repeated herein.

For at least these reasons and the reasons earlier presented in the Appeal Brief, the cited reference of *Belfiore* is deficient in disclosing claimed features, and the arguments set forth in the Appeal Brief still stand. The rejection of the pending claims should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In summary, it is Applicant's position that Applicant's claims are patentable over the applied cited art references and that the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn. Appellant therefore respectfully requests that the Board of Appeals overturn the Examiner's rejection and allow Applicant's pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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